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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 14, 2007

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SHASTA COUNTY PARENTS PLEAD GUILTY TO GROWING MARIJUANA

SACRAMENTO – United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that BERNARD SIROKMAN, 59, CHRISTIAN CROWLEY, 32, and TINA CROWLEY, 34, all from Cottonwood, California, pleaded guilty this morning to conspiracy to manufacture marijuana and manufacturing marijuana. The defendants entered their guilty pleas before Senior United States District Judge Lawrence K. Karlton.

This case is the product of a joint investigation by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration and the California Department of Justice.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Michael M. Beckwith, who is prosecuting the case, BERNARD SIROKMAN, his daughter, TINA CROWLEY, and her husband, CHRISTIAN CROWLEY, were growing marijuana in the garage of their shared home. The CROWLEY's three teenage daughters were living in the home while the defendants were growing marijuana.

The defendants are scheduled to be sentenced by Judge Karlton on October 23, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. The combined maximum statutory penalty for violations of 21 U.S.C. §§ 846 and 841 is 40 years of imprisonment and a \$2,000,000 fine. However, the actual sentence will be determined at the discretion of the court after consideration of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of variables, and any applicable statutory sentencing factors.

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